

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An electrically powered foldable mirror device for a vehicle, the mirror device comprising:

a tubular shaft including an upper end portion and a lower end portion;

a case including a first fitting portion fitting at the outer circumference of the shaft lower end portion for mounting the case to the shaft;

a mirror main body directly or indirectly supported by the case; and

a motor base mounted to the case and including a second fitting portion sealingly fitted with the shaft upper end portion such that the case and the motor base are rotatably supported along the vertical direction of the shaft by the first fitting portion and the second fitting portion, the second fitting portion including a first hole in fluid communication with the interior of the shaft upper end portion.

2. A mirror device according to claim 1, further comprising a stand which is mountable to a vehicle body and from which the shaft extends upward.

3. A mirror device according to claim 1, further comprising an electric motor for folding, which is mounted on the motor base.

*not shown*

4. A mirror device according to claim 1, further comprising a wire harness introduced through the interior of the shaft and the first hole.

5. A mirror device according to claim 1, wherein the first fitting portion comprises a supporting cylinder including an inner circumferential surface that fits with the outer circumference of the shaft.

6. A mirror device according to claim 1, further comprising a positioning mechanism capable of holding the mirror main body at each of a usage position and a folded position.

7. A mirror device according to claim 6, wherein the positioning mechanism is disposed between the shaft and the case.

8. A mirror device according to claim 1, further comprising a motor with an output shaft, and a speed reduction mechanism disposed in the case and engaging with the motor output shaft.

9. A mirror device according to claim 8, wherein the speed reduction mechanism comprises a ring gear fixed to the outer circumference of the shaft.

10. A mirror device according to claim 1, wherein the case and the motor base each comprise a metal material.

11. A mirror device according to claim 1, wherein the case comprises an opening which opens upward, and the motor base is insertingly mounted in the opening.

12. A mirror device according to claim 11, further comprising a cover closely fitted with the opening of the case.

13. A mirror device according to claim 12, wherein the cover comprises a cap portion mounted to the second fitting portion of the motor base.

14. A mirror device according to claim 13, wherein the cap portion comprises a first engaging ring portion including a second hole, which is concentric with the first hole of the second fitting portion.

15. A mirror device according to claim 14, wherein the second fitting portion further comprises a second ring portion disposed concentrically with the first hole, and having an inner circumference slightly larger than the inner circumference of the first hole.

16. A mirror device according to claim 15, wherein the first engaging ring portion is fitted into the second ring portion.

17. A mirror device according to claim 1, wherein an interface

between the second fitting portion and the shaft upper end portion includes tortuousness along the shaft diameter direction.

18. A mirror device according to claim 1, wherein the second fitting portion comprises an inner cylinder portion disposed at the inner side of the shaft upper end portion, an outer cylinder portion disposed at the outer side of the shaft upper end portion, and a connecting portion connecting the inner cylinder portion and the outer cylinder portion with each other.

19. A mirror device according to claim 1, wherein the second fitting portion comprises a downwardly extending inner cylinder portion fitted with an inner circumferential surface of the shaft upper end portion.

20. A mirror device according to claim 19, wherein the inner cylinder portion forms a faucet joint with the shaft.